

# to Missouri City

# Newcomer's Guide for Residents



Our mission is "to provide the citizens of Missouri City with quality services and an efficient use of resources"

Prepared by the Office of the City Secretary

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www.missouricitytx.gov

## ... and the rest is history

The first settlers came prior to the Texas Revolution. In 1890, the land in the area was advertised for sale in St. Louis, Missouri as "a land of genial sunshine and eternal summer." In the mid-1890s, W.R. McElroy purchased 80 acres in the B.B.B. & C. Railroad Survey, which he subdivided into town lots. McElroy called the new town "Missouri City" and filed his plat with the counties of Harris and Fort Bend in 1894 and 1895 respectively. The birth of Missouri City was thus made official.

Throughout the first half of the 1900s, Missouri City remained a small agricultural-based town. In 1956, the City incorporated under the general laws



of the State of Texas, and with a population of 604 began its formal city life with its first Mayor, R o b e r t Stallings, five

aldermen and a city marshal. With no ad valorem taxes or sales tax, the City lived only on its franchise fees from the utility companies and an occasional building permit.

In the 1960s, Fondren Park subdivision was built and construction began on the Quail Valley subdivision. Missouri City experienced a major construction boom throughout the 1970s which produced a 628% population explosion. The City's population grew from 4,136 in 1970 to 24,423 in 1980. In 2000, the population was estimated to be approximately 54,000.

In 1970, ad valorem taxes were initiated, and a sales tax was adopted in 1972. In 1974, Missouri City became a Home Rule city with a council/manager form of government upon adoption of a charter by its citizens. Under a council/manager form of government, the City Council makes the policy, and a City Manager, responsible to the City Council, carries out that policy in the day-to-day business of running the City. In 1981, Missouri City became a zoned city, and *the rest is history*.

## Mayor and City Council

Allen Owen Mayor

Jerry Wyatt At-Large Position 1 Buddy Jimerson At-Large Position 2

Eunice Reiter District A
Cynthia Gary District B
Barbara Gibson District C
Brett Kolaja District D

- Terms for single-member districts expire odd years and the Mayor and at-large positions expire even years. Elections are held the 1st Saturday in May.
- Correspondence can be mailed to City Hall, 1522 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, Texas 77489 or email to pfogarty@missouricitytx.gov.

#### **Important Numbers:**

#### **City Hall**

General Information	281.403.8500
City Manager	281.403.8690
City Secretary	281.403.8685
City Attorney	281.403.8659
Municipal Court	281.403.8668
Fire Department	281.403.4304
Police Department (Dispatch)	281.403.8700
Parks & Recreation (General Info.)	281.403.8637
Planning Department	281.403.8541
Public Relations	281.403.8530
Public Works Department	281.403.8570
Information Technology (IT)	281.403.8602
Finance Department	281.403.8611
Alarm Permits (Don't forget to register!)	281.403.8500
Building/Sign Permits	281.403.8600

#### Helpful numbers

Fort Bend County Switchboard	1 281.342.3411
County Clerk	281.341.8685
Voter Registration	281.341.8670
Library (Mo. City Branch)	281.499.4100
Chamber of Commerce	281.491.0800
Drivers License (S. Gessner)	713.773.3334
U.S. Post Office (Mo. City)	281.208.0838
Comcast Cable	713.462.9000
CenterPoint (lights)	713.207.7777
CenterPoint Entex (gas)	281.422.8308
Southwestern Bell Telephone	1.888.294.8433
Verizon	1.800.483.4000

To obtain phone numbers for water service or Municipal Utility Districts, please call 281.403.8500.

## Key Ordinances

The City of Missouri City has a Code of Ordinances to which residents are required to adhere. Inquiring minds want to know:

- ► Curfew Missouri City has a curfew ordinances for juveniles (under 17). It is a violation, punishable up to a \$500 fine, for a juvenile to be in public during curfew hours, which are: 11:00 p.m. on any Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday until 6:00 a.m. of the following day; from 12:01 a.m. until 6:00 a.m. on any Saturday or Sunday; and from 9:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., on any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. To find out more, or to find out the exceptions to this ordinance, please contact the Police Department at 281.403.8700.
- ▶ Pets It is illegal for any dog or other animal possessed, kept or harbored, except a domesticated cat, to run at large. Dogs must be on a leash. A metal certificate of vaccination must be worn by your dog or cat at all times. The number of residential pets is limited to four, and all are required to be registered with the City. For more information about the City's animal ordinance contact Animal Control at 281.403.8707.
- **8-- Abandoned/Junk Cars** Vehicles abandoned on the public right-of-way will be towed. Inoperative vehicles are restricted, even in driveways.
- Recreational Vehicles Storage of boats and recreational vehicles shall be permitted only if such boats and recreational vehicles are owned by residents, and if they are stored within the interior of a fully-enclosed structure constructed with similar materials, colors, style, and design as the primary structure on the lot. Boats and other recreational vehicles can only be parked in your driveway or in front of your house while you are loading and unloading.
- **\textstyle Weeds and Rubbish** Weeds and brush must be kept mowed to not more than nine inches tall. Any accumulation of refuse is illegal.
- ► Signs Missouri City has requirements as to the size and type of signs allowed in the City. Before erecting a sign on private property, or at a place of business, please call the Planning Department at 281.403.8541 for clarification.
- Fire and Burglar Alarm Systems Alarm systems must be registered, which includes an initial and annual renewal fee. Please contact 281.403.8500 for

# More Key Ordinances

more information

- Housing Code The City Council imposed a minimum housing standard for the health and safety of the public. Therefore, when a change of occupancy occurs in a residence, an inspection of the premises takes place to be certain the residence meets those minimum standards.
- Trash Disposal Trash receptacles may be placed at the curb no earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day before pick-up and removed from the curb no later than 6:00 p.m. on the day of the garbage collection. All trash receptacles must be kept out of public view at all other times.
- Accessory Buildings Accessory buildings require a permit before one can be installed on your property and certain restrictions apply. Contact City Hall at 281.403.8600 for further information.
- Masonry Fences Prior to construction, reconstruction, modification, enlargement, extension, or alteration of a masonry fence, which exceeds or will exceed six feet in height, you will need a building permit approved by the City. Upon completion of the construction, the fence shall be inspected by the City to ensure compliance.
- **Fence Repairs** All fences constructed shall be kept in good repair and maintained so as to comply with ordinance requirements at all times.

For more information about these or other ordinances, call 281.403.8686.

### Volunteer to Serve your City

If you would like to make a difference in the City by volunteering your time and knowledge, you may want to consider serving on one of the City's boards/commissions/committees. Most members are appointed prior to June 30 each year, but unexpected appointments and openings do occur from time to time. To obtain more information, and/or an application, call the City Secretary's Office at 281.403.8686 or download the application from our website at www.missouricitytx.gov..

## Missouri City Schools

School District: Fort Bend Independent Superintendent: Dr. Timothy R. Jenney

Main Phone No: 281.634.1000 E-mail Address:

www.fortbend.k12.tx

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Elementary	Schools

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<b>Briargate</b> 15817 Blue Ridge Road	281.634.4560		
Scanlin Oaks 9000 Camp Sienna Trail	281.634.3950		
<b>E.A.Jones</b> 1800 Fifth Street	281.634.4960		
Edgar Glover Jr. 1510 Columbia Blue Drive	281.634.4920		
<b>Hunters Glen</b> 8295 Independence Boulevard	281.634.4640		
Lantern Lane 3323 Mission Valley Drive	281.634.4680		
Lexington Creek 2335 Dulles Avenue	281.634.5000		
Palmer 4208 Crow Valley Drive	281.634.4760		
<b>Quail Valley</b> 3500 Quail Valley	281.634.5040		
Sienna Crossing 10011 Steep Bank Trace	281.634.3680		
Middle Schools			
<b>Baines</b> 9000 Sienna Ranch	281.634.6870		
<b>Lake Olympia</b> 3100 Lake Olympia Parkway	281.634.3520		
Missouri City 200 Louisiana Street	281.634.3440		
Quail Valley 3019 FM 1092	281.634.3600		
High Schools			
<b>Dulles</b> (Sugar Land) 550 Dulles Ave.	281.634.5600		
Elkins 7007 Knights Court	<b>281.634.260</b> 0		
<b>Hightower</b> 3333 Hurricane Lane	281.634.5240		
Marshall 1200 Buffalo Run	281.634.6630		
Progressive 1555 Independence Boulevard	281.634.2900		
Willowridge (Houston) 1601 Chimney Rock	281.634.2450		